

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as indicated below.

1           1.       (currently amended) A computer implemented method for performing  
2 complex resource scheduling of many resources, the method comprising providing real-  
3 time indication of resource scheduling conflicts in a resource scheduling process  
4 comprising:

5               providing a real-time indication of resource scheduling conflicts during the  
6 computer-implemented method;

7               analyzing resource scheduling data including real-time detection of resource  
8 conflicts, wherein resource conflicts include rule based conflicts and calendar based  
9 conflicts;

10              ~~conveying unobtrusively to a user generating~~ an indication that a resource  
11 conflict exists concurrent with the computer-implemented method, wherein conveying  
12 ~~the indication of a resource conflict occurs concurrently with the resource scheduling~~  
13 ~~process; and~~

14              in response to a user input, automatically continuing with the scheduling method  
15 without resolving the conflict, including detecting further resource conflicts and  
16 generating further indications that resource conflicts exist.

17              ~~providing the user an option to allow the scheduling process to continue without~~  
18 ~~resolving the conflict.~~

1           2.       (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising presenting to the  
2 user, upon selection, a description of the resource conflict.

1           3.       (original) The method of claim 1, wherein presenting includes providing  
2 the user the choice to suppress the resource conflict.

1           4.       (original) The method of claim 1. wherein presenting include providing  
2 the user a potential resolution of the resource conflict.

1           5.       (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the potential  
2 resolution further comprises a hyperlink to a relevant portion of the resource scheduling  
3 method process allowing the resource conflict to be resolved.

1           6.       (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the indication includes a  
2 visual representation.

1           7.       (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the visual  
2 representation includes using colors to represent resource conflicts, including red to  
3 represent unsuppressed resource conflicts and yellow to represent suppressed resource  
4 conflicts.

1           8.       (currently amended) A system for providing real-time indication of  
2 resource scheduling conflicts in a resource scheduling process, the system comprising:

3           a user interface receiving data from a user;

4           a processor coupled to the user interface, wherein the processor is capable of  
5 executing instructions;

6           a display device coupled to the processor; and

7           a memory device coupled to the processor, the memory device storing the  
8 instructions comprising a resource scheduling software application for performing  
9 complex scheduling of many resources, the application comprising,

10           a resource scheduling process, wherein the resource scheduling process  
11 includes, analyzing agent data, analyzing scheduling criteria, and detecting resource  
12 conflicts; and

13           an error identification process, wherein the error identification process is  
14 concurrent with the resource scheduling process, and wherein descriptions of identified  
15 resource conflicts and potential resolutions of the identified resource conflicts are  
16 conveyed to the user concurrent with the resource scheduling process, and wherein the  
17 resource scheduling process is configured such that normal operation completion of the  
18 scheduling process is independent of resolution of any conflicts.

1           9.       (previously presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the potential  
2 resolutions of the identified resource conflicts-include hyperlinks to relevant portions of  
3 the resource scheduling process allowing the resource conflict to be resolved.

1           10.      (original) The system of claim 8 wherein the real-time indication  
2 includes a visual representation.

1           11.      (previously presented) The system of claim 10 wherein the visual  
2 representation includes using a first color for an unsuppressed resource conflict and a  
3 second color for a suppressed resource conflict.

1           12.      (currently amended) A computer-readable medium containing executable  
2 instructions which, when executed in a processing system, cause the system to:  
3           analyze resource scheduling data via a resource scheduling process and detect a  
4 resource conflict;  
5           convey unobtrusively to a user an indication that the resource conflict exists  
6 concurrently with the resource scheduling process; and  
7           present to the user, upon selecting the indication, a description of the resource  
8 conflict and a potential solution to resolve the conflict, wherein the user may elect to  
9 continue normal operation of ~~complete~~ the resource scheduling process without  
10 resolving any conflicts, including conveying to the user indications that at least one  
11 further conflict exists.

1           13.      (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the  
2 executable instruction, when executed, further allow the user to suppress the resource  
3 conflict wherein suppressing comprises allowing the resource scheduling process to  
4 continue while the resource conflict persists.

1           14.      (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the  
2 executable instruction, when executed, present a hyperlink to a relevant portion of the  
3 resource scheduling process where the resource conflict is resolved.

1           15.     (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the  
2 indication includes a visual representation.

1           16.     (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 15,  
2 wherein visual representation includes using a first color for an unsuppressed resource  
3 conflict and a second color for a suppressed resource conflict.

1           17.     (currently amended) A system for providing real-time identification of  
2 resource scheduling conflicts, the system comprising:  
3           at least one server comprising at least one storage device storing executable  
4 instructions;  
5           at least one client processor coupled to the server through a network, wherein the  
6 ~~instruction~~ instructions, when executed, cause the at least one client processor to,  
7           analyze agent data and scheduling criteria to detect a resource conflict;  
8           concurrently convey an identification of the resource conflict;  
9           present, upon selection, a description of the resource conflict;  
10          present a potential solution to resolve the resource conflict; and  
11          generate a resource schedule in the presence of unresolved conflicts, including  
12 detecting further conflicts.

1           18.     (previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the instructions  
2 include providing the user the choice to suppress the resource conflict.

1           19.     (previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the potential  
2 solution comprises a hyperlink to a relevant portion of the resource scheduling process  
3 allowing the resource conflict to be resolved.

1           20.     (original) The system of claim 17, wherein the indication include a visual  
2 representation.

1           21.     (original) The system of claim 20, wherein the visual representation  
2 includes using a first color for an unsuppressed conflict and a second color for a  
3 suppressed conflict.

1           22.     (currently amended) A method for providing real-time identification of  
2 resource scheduling conflicts in a computer program for performing complex scheduling  
3 of a plurality of resources, the method ~~resource scheduling process~~ comprising:

4           analyzing resource scheduling data via a resource scheduling process including  
5 real-time detection of resource conflicts;

6           providing a real-time indication of resource scheduling conflicts during execution  
7 of the computer program, including a visual indication;

8           ~~conveying unobtrusively to a user a visual indication that the resource conflict~~  
9 ~~exists, wherein conveying the indication occurs concurrently with the resource~~  
10 ~~scheduling process;~~

11          receiving a user input allowing the user to suppress the resource conflict, wherein  
12 the visual indication of the resource conflict uses a first color for unsuppressed resource  
13 conflicts and a second color for suppressed resource conflicts, and wherein suppression  
14 of the resource conflict allows the computer program to continue executing to generate a  
15 complex schedule with at least one ~~resource scheduling process to complete with an~~  
16 unresolved conflict;

17          presenting to the user a description of the resource conflict and a potential  
18 solution to resolve the resource conflict, wherein the potential solution includes a  
19 hyperlink to a relevant portion of the resource scheduling process allowing the resource  
20 scheduling conflict to be resolved.

1           23.     (currently amended) A method for providing real-time identifications of  
2 resource scheduling conflicts in a computer program for automatically generating  
3 complex resource schedules, the method comprising:

4           analyzing resource scheduling data including real-time detection of resource  
5 conflicts;

6 conveying unobtrusively to a user an indication that a resource conflict exists,  
7 wherein the conveying of the indication of the resource conflict occurs concurrently with  
8 the resource scheduling process and wherein the indication of a resource conflict  
9 includes identifying at least one resource associated with the resource conflict; and  
10 presenting to the user a description of the resource conflict and a potential  
11 resolution of the resource conflict, wherein the potential solution includes a hyperlink to  
12 a relevant portion of the resource scheduling process allowing the resource scheduling  
13 conflict to be resolved;  
14 if no input is received in response to the indication, continuing with generating  
15 the complex schedule, wherein the complex schedule includes the conflict.

1 24. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein presenting includes  
2 providing the user a choice to suppress the resource conflict.

1 25. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein presenting  
2 includes providing the user a choice of viewing the description of the resource conflict.

1 26. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein the potential solution further  
2 comprises a hyperlink to a relevant portion of the resource scheduling process allowing  
3 the resource scheduling conflict to be resolved.

1 27. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein conveying an indication  
2 includes a visual representation.

1 28. (previously presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the visual  
2 representation includes a first color for an unsuppressed resource conflict and a second  
3 color for a suppressed resource conflict.

1 29. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the resource  
2 conflicts include conflict of multiple different types, and wherein identifying includes  
3 indicating a type of a resource conflict.

1           30.   (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the multiple  
2 different types include a rule-based conflict and a calendar based conflict.

1           31.   (previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein the multiple  
2 different types are visually represented including using a third color for a rule-based  
3 conflict and a fourth color for a calendar based conflict.

1           32.   (currently amended) A method for generating a resource schedule  
2 including concurrent error identification, the method comprising:  
3           receiving scheduling data in a resource scheduling process, including receiving  
4 data input by a user;  
5           determining whether a conflict exists on the basis of the received data, including  
6 determining whether a conflict is a resource specific conflict;  
7           determining whether a resource specific conflict is rule based or calendar based;  
8           presenting the user with the option to view additional information about a  
9 conflict; and  
10          presenting the user with the option to suppress a conflict, wherein suppressing a  
11 conflict comprises saving information related to the conflict and generating the resource  
12 schedule including the unresolved conflict~~with the conflict unresolved~~.

1           33.   (previously presented) The method of claim 32, further comprising  
2 presenting the user with a hyperlink to a location in a resource scheduling process at  
3 which a determined conflict may be resolved by the user.